

Additions to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (original): A connector for connecting a structural member to a boss on a base anchor element, said boss having a through bore, said connector comprising;

a semi-rigid shaft portion removably received in said bore,

stop means for limiting travel of the shaft in one direction through the bore,

a terminal end spaced from said shaft for connection to said structural member, and

a reduced cross sectional extent located between said shaft and said terminal end,

said connector being of integral construction, said reduced cross sectional extent forming a living hinge between the shaft and the terminal connector.
2. (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said connector is comprised of semi-rigid molded plastic material, and

said structural member comprises a hollow tubular elastic strap,

said strap passing over said terminal end to tightly grip the surface thereof.
3. (original): A restraining device comprising in combination;

a restraining member having opposite terminal ends,

a base member for connection to the opposite ends of said restraining member,

each said base member including means for attachment to a surface on one face and a protruding boss on the opposite face thereof,

said boss including a through bore, and

a connector pin removably received in said bore for connection to a terminal end of said

restraining device,

said connector pin including a shaft portion removably received in said bore, stop means for limiting travel of the shaft in one direction through the bore, a terminal connector on said pin spaced from said shaft for connection to said restraining member, and a reduced cross sectional extent located between said shaft and said terminal connector,

said connector pin being of integral construction, said reduced cross sectional extent forming a living hinge between the shaft and the terminal connector.

4. (original): A flexible strap restraining device comprising in combination;
- a hollow tubular elastic strap having opposite terminal ends,
- base members for connection to the opposite ends of said strap,
- each said base member including means for attachment to a surface on one face and an upstanding boss on the opposite face thereof,
- said boss including a through bore, and
- a connector pin removably received in said bore for connection to said strap,
- said connector pin including an enlarged head on one end engaging said boss to limit the travel of the pin in the bore, a shaft section extending through said bore, a terminal connector on the other end thereof and a reduced cross sectional extent forming a flexible hinge located between said shaft and said terminal connector,
- the terminal end of said strap passing over said terminal connector in a snug fit for gripping action,
- whereby the gripping action of said strap terminal end is enhanced upon tensioning said elastic strap and said terminal connectors are movable about said flexible hinge.

5. (original): The apparatus of claim 4 wherein;
said terminal connector has a right circular cylindrical surface, and
said flexible strap comprises a hollow elastic tubular member having an inside diameter sized for snugly engaging said tubular connector to grip the surface thereof.

6. (original): The apparatus of claim 5 wherein;
said connector pin comprises a semi-rigid unitary molded plastic body.

7. (original): The apparatus of claim 6 wherein;
said base members comprise suction cups, said boss being formed on the surface of said opposite face.

8. (original): A flexible strap restraining device comprising in combination;
a hollow tubular elastic strap having opposite ends for connection to base members,
suction cup base members for connection to the opposite ends of said strap and
attachment to smooth impermeable surfaces,
each said suction cup base member including a vacuum retaining cavity on one face and
an upstanding boss on the opposite face thereof,
said boss including a central longitudinal axis extending normal to said cavity and a
through bore extending normal to said longitudinal axis, and
a semi-rigid plastic connector pin removably received in said bore for connection to said
strap,

said connector pin including an enlarged head on one end engaging said boss to limit the travel of the pin in the bore, a shaft section extending through said bore, a terminal connector on the other end thereof and a reduced cross sectional extent forming a flexible hinge located between said shaft and said terminal connector,

the terminal end of said strap passing over said terminal connector in a snug fit for gripping action,

whereby the gripping action of said strap terminal end is enhanced upon tensioning said elastic strap and said terminal connectors are movable about said flexible hinge.

9. (original): The apparatus of claim 8 wherein;

said terminal connector has a right circular cylindrical surface, and said flexible strap has an inside diameter sized for snugly engaging the cylindrical surface of said terminal connector.

10. (original): The apparatus of claim 9 wherein;

said connector pin comprises a semi-rigid unitary molded plastic body.

11. (new): A connector for connecting a structural member to a boss on a base anchor element, said boss having a transverse through bore, said connector comprising;

a semi-rigid shaft portion removably received in said bore,

stop means on said shaft for limiting travel of the shaft in one direction through the bore,

a terminal end connector portion spaced from said shaft for connection to said structural member, and

a flexible reduced cross sectional extent located between said shaft portion and said

terminal end connector portion,

said connector being of integral construction, said flexible reduced cross sectional extent forming a living hinge between the shaft portion and the terminal end connector portion for transmitting multi-directional loads to said shaft portion.

12. (new): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said connector is comprised of semi-rigid molded plastic material, and

said structural member comprises a hollow tubular elastic strap,

said strap passing over said terminal end connector portion to tightly grip the surface thereof under tensile loading.

13. (new): A connector for connecting a structural member to a boss on a base anchor element, said boss protruding from the base anchor element and having a longitudinal axis, a bore extending through said boss in a direction transverse to said longitudinal axis, said connector comprising;

a semi-rigid shaft portion removably received in said bore,

stop means on said shaft for engaging said boss to limit travel of the shaft in one direction transversely through the bore,

a terminal end connector portion spaced from said shaft portion and said boss for connection to said structural member, and

a flexible reduced cross sectional extent on said connector located outside said bore and between said shaft portion and said terminal end connector portion,

said connector being of integral construction, said reduced cross sectional extent forming

Application No. 10/759,441
Response dated Oct. 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 9, 2004

a living hinge between the shaft and the terminal end connector portion for transmitting multi-directional tensile loads to said shaft portion.